do with the secrets of the All-Merciful? You should have done what you were commanded, and let the Holy One, blessed be He, do that which pleases Him. He said to him: Then give me now your daughter; perhaps through your merit and mine combined virtuous children will issue from me. He replied:[35] The doom has already been decreed. Said the other: Son of Amoz, finish your prophecy and go. This tradition I have from the house of my ancestor:[36] Even if a sharp sword rests upon a man's neck he should not desist from prayer.[37] This saying is also recorded in the names of R. Johanan and R. Eleazar: Even if a sharp sword rests on a man's neck, he should not desist from prayer, as it says, Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him.[38]

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(1) In point of fact this is the only one. V. Tosaf. a.l.

(2) The last verse of Ps. II, which shows that according to R. Johanan Pss. I and II formed one Psalm.

(3) Baryone, a word of doubtful meaning.

(4) Valeria.

(5) Pres. part. of the verb hata, to sin. Hence meaning sinners.

(6) Which can be read חטאים sins. M.T. vocalizes חוטאמי (sinners).

(7) So MS.M. (v. Glos.) curr. edd.: Sadducee.

(8) Isa. LIV, 1.

(9) Apparently the point is that at present she is barren, but in the future she shall have many children. Probably Beruria was thinking of Rome as 'the married wife' and Jerusalem as 'the desolate'.

(10) Ps. III, 1.

(11) Ibid. LVII, 1.

(12) Heb. semukim, the same word as for juxtaposed. E.V. 'established'.

(13) Ibid. CXI, 8.

(14) Ps. II, which is supposed by the Rabbis to refer to the rebellion of Gog and Magog against God and the Messiah.

(15) Sc. the nations against God.

(16) Prov. XXXI, 26.

(17) I.e., his mother's womb. E.V. 'all that is within me'.

(18) Ps. CIII, 1.

(19) Ps. CIII, 20, 21.

(20) Ibid. 2.

(21) I.e., the heart, (the seat of understanding). R. Abbahu connects the word gemulaw (his benefits) with gamal (weaned).

(22) Ibid. CIV, 35.

(23) Ibid. I.

(24) Ibid. 29.

(25) Reading דהוה with MS.M.

(26) R. Shimi or Mar 'Ukba.

(27) Ibid. CIII, 1.

(28) I Sam. II, 2.

(29) R. Shimi to R. Simeon b. Pazzi.

(30) Eccl. VIII, 1.

(31) The prophet went to the king.

(32) 1 Kings XVIII, 2.

(33) V. II Kings III, 12.

(34) Isa. XXXVIII, 1.

(35) Insert with MS.M. Behold I say to you 'Set thy house in order', and you say to me 'Give me now your daughter'.

(36) David.

(37) Cf. II Sam. XXIV, 17.

(38) Job XIII, 15.

Talmud - Mas. Berachoth 10b